
Approximately fourteen miles east of the Little Big Horn River, this position allowed his scouts to spot a large pony herd and village in the far distance. Moving to Battle. The village that Custer's Crow scouts saw was one of the largest ever gatherings of Plains Native Americans. The defeat at the Little Bighorn cost Custer his life, as well as 267 killed and 51 wounded. Native American casualties are estimated at between 36 and 300+. In the wake of the defeat, the US Army increased its presence in the region and began a series of campaigns which greatly increased the pressure on the Native Americans. Book Information. The Battle of the Little Bighorn: The History and Controversy of Custer's Last Stand. By Cre. Length: 43 pages. Before the battle, it is believed Custer thought he was facing a group of about 800, which was Sitting Bull's strength in the weeks before the battle. However, the Army's Native American scouts and civilian scouts had not adequately informed the Army of the reinforcements that arrived, and at Little Bighorn, Custer's three-pronged attack was completely overwhelmed. How Custer met his fate, and whether there even was a Last Stand, remain subjects of debate, but what is known is that the Battle of the Little Bighorn was one of the U.S. military's biggest debacles. The Battle of the Little Bighorn, known to the Lakota and other Plains Indians as the Battle of the Greasy Grass and also commonly referred to as Custer's Last Stand, was an armed engagement between combined forces of the Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Arapaho tribes and the 7th Cavalry Regiment of the United States Army. The battle, which resulted in the defeat of U.S. forces, was the most significant action of the Great Sioux War of 1876. It took place on June 25–26, 1876, along the Little Bighorn.